

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4318

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic 18 N. Howard Street
and/or common Baltimore Studio of Hair Design

2. Location

street & number 18 N. Howard Street not for publication
city, town Baltimore vicinity of congressional district Seventh
state Maryland county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture <u> </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u>X</u> commercial <u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational <u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment <u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government <u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial <u> </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military <u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Aaron and Lillie Strauss Foundation Inc.
street & number 6301 Stevens Forest Road telephone no.:
city, town Columbia state and zip code MD 21045

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse MLP9198
100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610 liber
street & number Baltimore MD 129
city, town state folio

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
pository for survey records
city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4318

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1915, enframed window wall commercial building faces east on N. Howard Street and abuts two partywall structures. The brick and glass building is one bay wide and two stories high. The street frontage is 27'3" and the depth is 105'3".

The first story has been altered. The central window section has been remodelled. The plate glass display window is subdivided into four vertical panes by metal mutins. The entrance of a single glass door with transom is recessed in the south end of the window wall. Moss green tiles embellish the foundation wall under the windows. A fabric awning is suspended across the first story. A signboard runs above the awning.

The second story is unaltered. The three-sided, bowed floor-to-ceiling window consists of a middle section of three 14-light windows flanked by two 14-light angled windows at each side. The angled windows spring from the inside of the wall plane, and the bow of the window does not extend beyond the plane of the facade.

The brick piers of the first story run up the sides of the building, above the second story and form a brick frame along the top. The square profile is accentuated by double rows of header bricks that outline the inside and outside edges of the squared horseshoe.

The wood cornice is a simple arrangement of three corbelled back bands.

The interior has been remodelled with wallboarding and acoustical tile ceiling.

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4318

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1915 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The architectural design of this two-story, one-bay building is an unpretentious example of an early Art Deco enframed window wall commercial building. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that the enframed window wall design was "most commonly used for retail stores" and that the design "reflects an effort to give greater order to the facade composition of small and moderate-sized commercial buildings."¹ The tripartite window in the second story is indicative of the commercial usage of the upper story, as well as the first story.

The delicate metal mutins encasing the multi-light, floor-to-ceiling bowed window create a building unique to enframed window wall designs in the commercial district. The rectilinear brick outlines bordering the enframing wall are typical of the simplest early Art Deco designs.

The two-story height and narrow street frontage of this commercial building reveals the changing commercial nature of the unit block of N. Howard Street. Unlike the nineteenth century, when the neighborhood was used for combination commercial/light manufacturing businesses, during the twentieth century the manufacturing component began to move elsewhere. This building is a transitional one: the upper stories were used for the traditional commercial/light manufacturing usage, but not on the scale of the earlier period's buildings. Nonetheless, the narrow width indicates a competition for economically valuable (and hence expensive) street frontage. The resulting two-story design of the building adequately fulfilled the limited commercial needs of the occupants and provided the financial return needed on the property.

¹ Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 69, 68.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4318

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture (Washington, DC: Preservation Press, 1987).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Diane Shaw		
organization	C.H.A.P., Room 1037	date	August 12, 1991
street & number	417 E. Fayette Street	telephone	(301) 396-4866
city or town	Baltimore	state	MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes:
Architecture
Economics

Resource Type:
Building

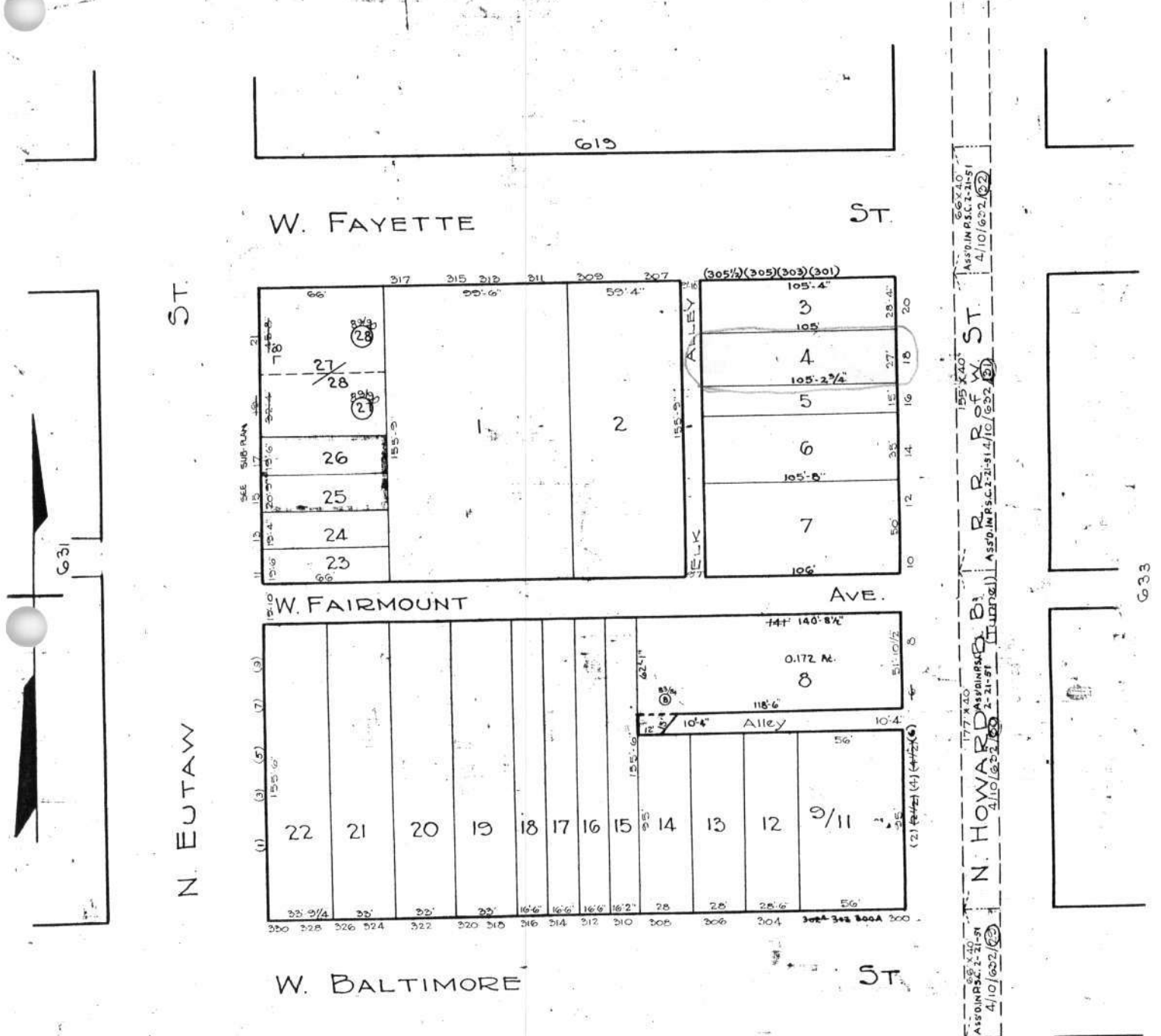
Historic Environment:
Urban

Historic Function and Use:
Commercial

Known Design Source:
None

REVISIONS.
 Lots 25, 30, 31, 32 Ass'd in P.S.C. Per BofA, L.S.H. 5275.
 Lot 24 N. CHANGED PER FIELD C.S.H. 9280-A
 Lot 14 DIM CHANGED PER DEED C.S.H. 84-2
 Lots 25 & 26 CORR. PER DEED C.S.H. 87-04A
 Lots 27 & 28 CONSD PER O.O.C.S.H. 90-256

B-4318

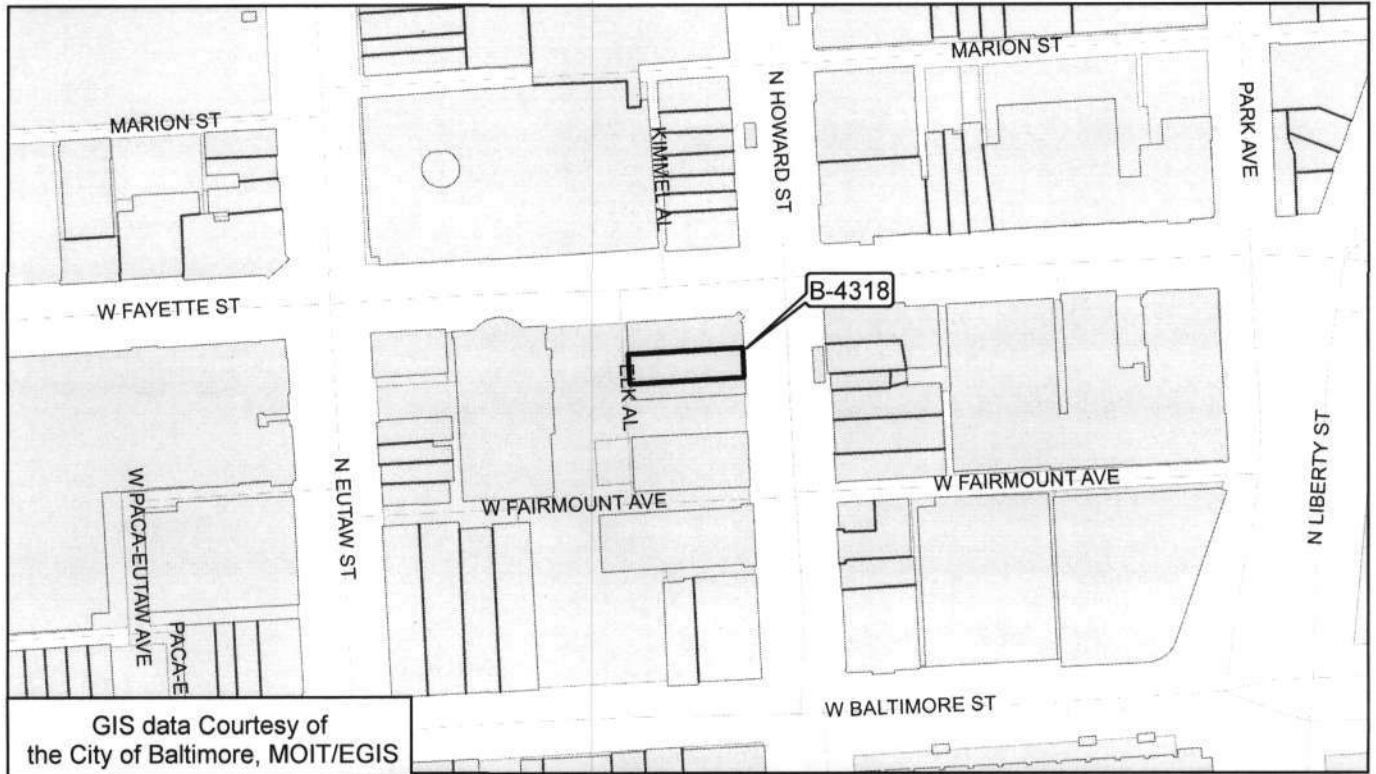


DRAWN BY Moorehead
 CHECKED BY W.M. Lee

NOTICE
 THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED
 FOR UNDER ARTICLE 2641 OF THE CITY CHARTER.
 IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER
 SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS
 PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION
 WARD 4 SECTION 10
 BLOCK 632

B-4318
Baltimore Studio of Hair Design
18 N. Howard Street
Block 0632, Lot 001 (Formerly lot 004)
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-4318

18 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Facade, east elevation

1/1